

Woodwind Lakes



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December 2013

Volume 2, Issue 12

Gardening Tips

Presented By RCW Nurseries

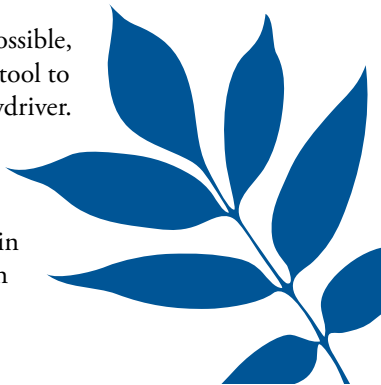
Before decorating your trees and shrubs with lights, take a moment to evaluate your yard so that it looks its best both in daytime and at night. Rake the leaves and pine needles off the lawn, and shred them with your lawn mower. Put the shreds under your shrubs, as they make great (and free!) mulch. These shreds not only conserve soil moisture, they also protect the roots of the shrubs from your footsteps as you string your holiday lights on them. Then take a moment to spray both trees and shrubs with dormant oil. It is the single most effective way of reducing insect pest populations by smothering the eggs they have laid.

After you've strung your lights, step back and see how you can make your holiday decorations look finished. While holiday lights and decorations look marvelous at night they are dull-looking in daylight. On the other hand, colorful annuals look best in daylight. So finish off your decorations with them. In partially shaded areas, try a combination of white Cyclamen, red Dianthus, and blue Lobelia. In sunny areas try a combination of Dusty Miller, Gerbera Daisies, and Violas.

To keep your yard looking its best, it's important that all your plants receive sufficient water. While plants generally need less water during the cool season, they must have enough of it to sustain growth. How you water trees and shrubs during the next 6 months affects how they will cope with next year's hot, and usually dry, weather. If it hasn't rained for at least a week, place your hose at various spots between the trunk of the tree and its drip line, and water deeply. Slowly run the water through the hose to avoid run off into the street.

Use the same strategy for shrubs, although they may need to be watered slightly more often because of their proportionately smaller root systems. To determine how often to water them, count the days from the last watering (or rainfall) to the first signs of wilting, then subtract one day. For example, if your shrubs show signs of wilting 7 days after watering, water them again at six days. Use the same watering technique described above. Flowerbeds always require more frequent watering because annuals and perennials have much smaller root systems. But the same idea applies to them: water amply, but infrequently to promote a good root system.

While lawns should be watered as infrequently as possible, it's hard to tell when they should be watered. A good tool to use for measuring soil moisture is an 8-inch long screwdriver. Walk around your yard and stick the length of the screwdriver blade into the ground at random. If it is dry you won't be able to push the screwdriver into the soil. Run your sprinkler system long enough (and in cycles to prevent run off) to get the soil wet to a depth of about six inches.



UPDATE ON IMPROVEMENTS FOR SECTIONS 1 - 3

The August newsletter went into detail about the proposal for MUD #261 (serving sections 1-3 only) to borrow money cheaper than with current rates to retire old loans and use the balance to fund some community projects that have a base of support from the community. Since that time, two committees - one for a community center and the other for a perimeter beautification project - have met and handed out information at the Annual Meeting on October 15th. Both committees realize that these two projects will enhance the quality of life and property values of our residents as well as making Woodwind Lakes more attractive to prospective home buyers.

These projects would be paid for by MUD #261 with a slight increase in taxes and would not affect the annual HOA maintenance fees for sections 1-3. The perimeter beautification would consist of a taller fence of either brick or a sound-proof material and would be landscaped.

The proposed community center would be built at the back (south end) of the reserve area on MUD-owned property. It would accommodate approximately 50 people, contingent upon building code requirements and the parking lot adjacent to the tennis court would be extended to provide additional off-street parking. The HOA would handle the

(Continued on Page 3)

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

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Darin Duphorne darinwwl@sbcglobal.net
Jay Michaels jaysmichaels@earthlink.net
Greg Neuman neumantmsl@yahoo.com
JC Rubiano
Ray Pavia.....

NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE

Editor

Frank Cario frank@sterlingasi.com
..... 832-678-4500

Janine Cruz janine@sterlingasi.com

Advertising

Peel, Inc advertising@PEELinc.com
..... 1-888-687-6444

GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Diana Mintner dianamintner@gmail.com
Suzanne Fontenot-Williams suzydiver@att.net

PAVILION & ADULT POOL

Donna Jackson 713-466-8668
..... kotilla@hotmail.com

MOTHERS OF WWL

Rebecca Waterman rebeccawaterman@sbcglobal.net

WOMEN'S CLUB

Diana Mintner dianamintner@gmail.com
Gail Ford ggford@sbcglobal.com
Stacia Harvey sfonfara@gmail.com
Dawn Porter dawns_08080@yahoo.com

OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

Sterling Association Services, Inc.

..... servicedesk@sterlingasi.com
..... 832-678-4500
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Mailing Address - P.O. Box 38113, Houston TX 77238-8113
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P - 713-526-1536 | F - 281-346-2961 | royaldisposal@comcast.net
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including curbside recycling every Saturday.

USEFUL LINKS

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Sec 1, 2 and 3 Utility
..... http://hcmud261.com/HCMUD261/Index.htm
Section 4 Utility http://www.wfud.org/
Social Media .. https://woodwindlakes.nextdoor.com/news_feed/
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ARTICLE INFO

The *Woodwind Lakes Newsletter* is mailed monthly to all Woodwind Lakes residents. Residents, community groups, churches, etc. are welcome to submit information about their organizations in the newsletter. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, recipes, special celebrations, and birthday announcements are also welcome.

To submit an article for consideration please email it to frank@sterlingasi.com. The deadline is the 9th of the month prior to the issue.

GROUNDS COMMITTEE

IN MEMORY OF JIM COAPLAND: Jim was such an integral part of the Woodwind Lakes Grounds Committee, having been a member for many years. We will all miss his sense of humor, kindness and spirit. In memory of our friend, a tree will be planted on Lake Two. His wife, Linda, who is also a member of our committee, will help us choose the location and type of tree.

JOE DEFATTA: We wish Joe a quick recovery from his double bypass heart surgery recently at Memorial-Hermann Hospital.

Last month, we talked about our plans for improving the trail entrances to the lakes. Board Member and Grounds Committee member Ray Pavia, listened to our wishes and, with his background in landscape design, completed the task in less than a week. Thanks Ray, for enhancing these areas. What a difference it has made.

The Grounds Committee is never finished so please don't hesitate to call or email Suzanne or Diana or visit with any of our members with your concerns, questions or suggestions. We would love to have more Residents be part of this committee.

Remember, the December Yard of the Month judging is solely based on exterior holiday décor.

Happy Holidays Everyone!



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Updates on Improvements - (Continued from Cover Page)

planting and maintenance of landscaping around the center and MUD #261 would pay for building utilities and maintenance.

The following groups would benefit by being able to hold meetings and functions at the center: Grounds Committee, Women's Club, Book Club, Bunco group, Wine and Cheese groups, Bible Study group, Mothers of Woodwind Lakes, Security Committee/Block Captains, HOA Board of Directors and MUD #261 Board of Directors. The center would be an ideal place for weddings, baby and wedding showers, Scout meetings, Bingo, Game Night, Singles Mixer Night, senior activities and parties of all kinds. Several residents have expressed interest in having classes such as art, Yoga, Tai Chi, foreign language, flower arranging, photography, computer literacy, dance lessons and speakers on various subjects of interest to residents.

It is important that residents understand that BOTH projects, as well as some needed improvements and repairs to our water and sewer infrastructure, can be done with the money the MUD plans to borrow. Those residents wanting more information, a copy of the fact sheets passed out at the Annual Meeting or who wish to serve on one of the committees should contact Community Center Committee co-chairs Joyce Kraft (713 983-7738) or Marianne West (713 849-0364) or Perimeter Beautification Chairman Greg Otten (713 896-9128).



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Woodwind Lakes

Mothers of Woodwind Lakes

Mothers of Woodwind Lakes is open to all families in the neighborhood. The primary purpose of the group is to meet other families and share resources that interest families. Most recent information on play dates & events will be posted via the NextDoor Woodwind Lakes website. The online web discussion group has many active topics and resources for families with children of all ages. Topics include school information, local kid-friendly activities, networking for childcare, elder care, etc...

Please contact Dana Patterson (greg.dana.patterson@gmail.com) if you would like to join the group and online discussion board. Your information will be shared with other WWL Mother's Group members only. There are no dues or time commitments.

BABYSITTERS NEEDED

Are you a resident who is interested in babysitting with the families in the neighborhood? The Mothers of Woodwind Lakes collects names as a resource to all residents. A short e-mail with your current information and fall schedule is very helpful even if you have been on the list before. Whenever you send a new e-mail, it will get posted to the group again.

For more information, contact Erica Kortright
(erica.t.kortright@gmail.com).



Adult Pool/Pavilion

Because of our wonderful weather, the Pavilion is a great place to have a gathering....and it is free! All you have to do is make a reservation, put down a \$50 deposit and CLEAN UP as soon as your party is over...That means to haul off your trash....that's it and your deposit is given back or torn up (check)...For reservations contact Donna Jackson:

- 713-466-8668....home phone
- kotilla@hotmail.com
- or catch me on Facebook

Bathrooms

Just a reminder to all....whether you are playing tennis, using the Pavilion, the Reserve, the Adult Pool, or just "in the area", please remember to close the door to the bathroom when you leave. If it is left open, the wind blows the leaves and trash into the bathroom...let's keep our facility clean....

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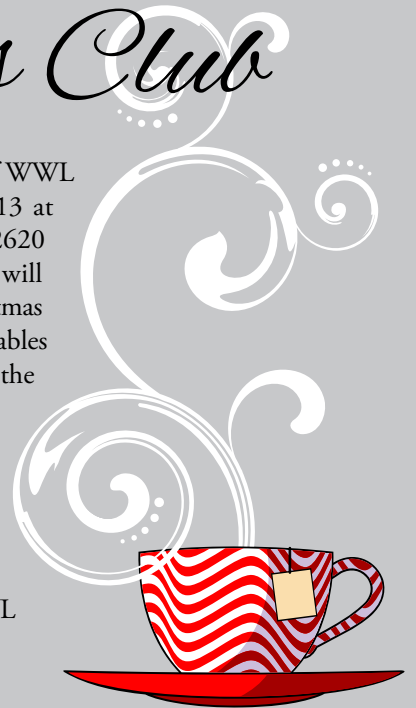
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Women's Club

The next meeting for the Women's Club of WWL is scheduled for Tuesday, December 17, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. at Your Cup of Tea located at 2620 Fondren Houston, TX 77063. The ladies will enjoy a traditional English style Holiday/Christmas tea and light lunch at this tea room and collectables shop. As part of their "admission" to the tea, the ladies are to wear pearls, hats, fascinators, or gloves.

On behalf of the Women's Club, we wish all of our WWL neighbors a very Happy Holiday season!

For more information about the Women's Club, please contact one of the WC of WWL officers.



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